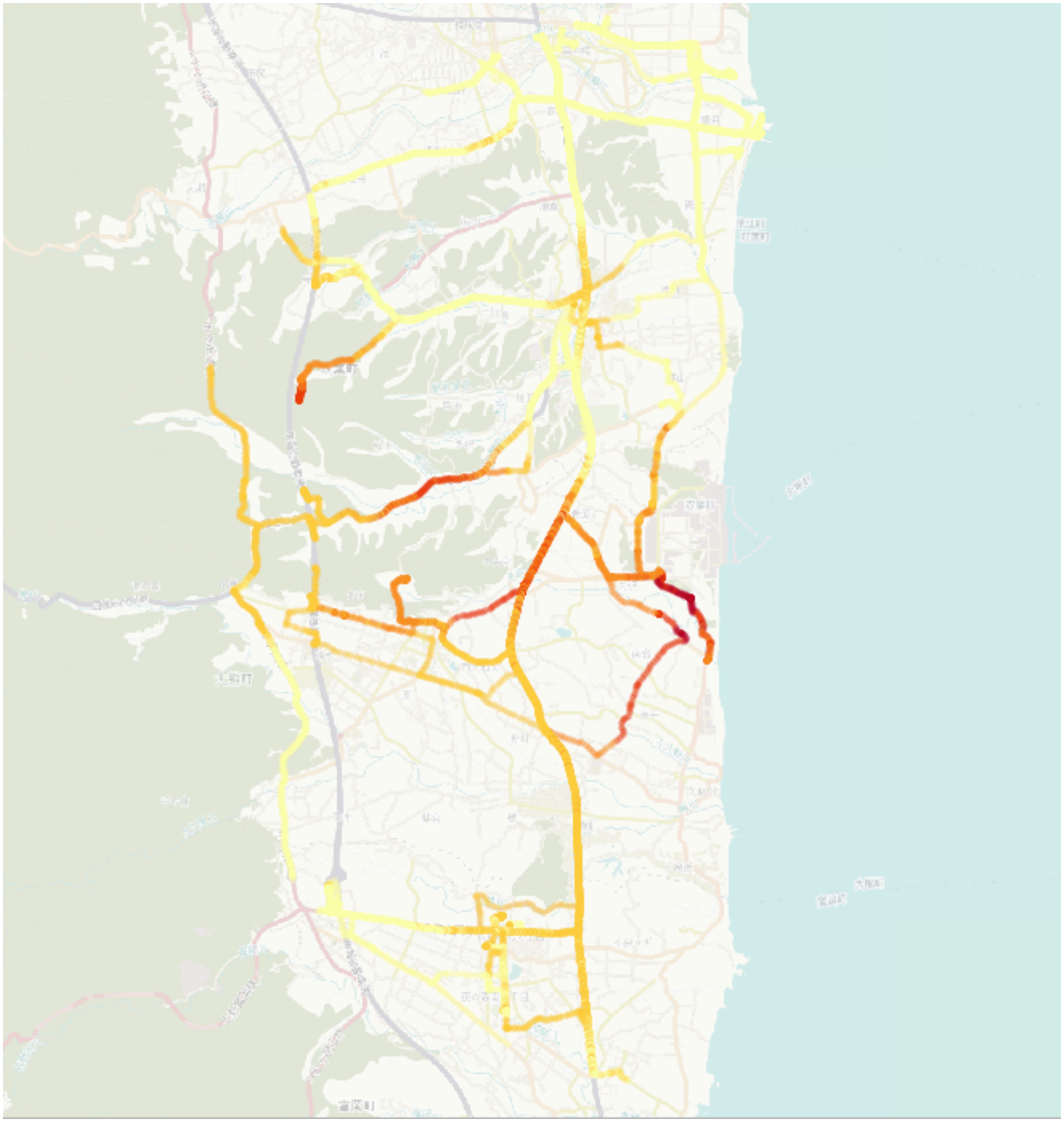
Targeted skills

By the end of this module, you will know how to:

- visualize quantitative data spatial distribution using colour visual encoding
- choose an appropriate color palette/ramp (choropleth map)
- choose a data discretization method (data binning)



Data

Data to be used in this module can be found in the following folders:

`data/punctual_data`

Exercise outline & memos

1. Open shapefile & background map

Open:

```
data/punctual_data/safecast.shp
```

and add a background map:

```
[In QGIS top menu]
Web  OpenLayers plugin  OpenStreetMap  OSM Humanitarian Data Model
```

2. Access thematic mapping settings

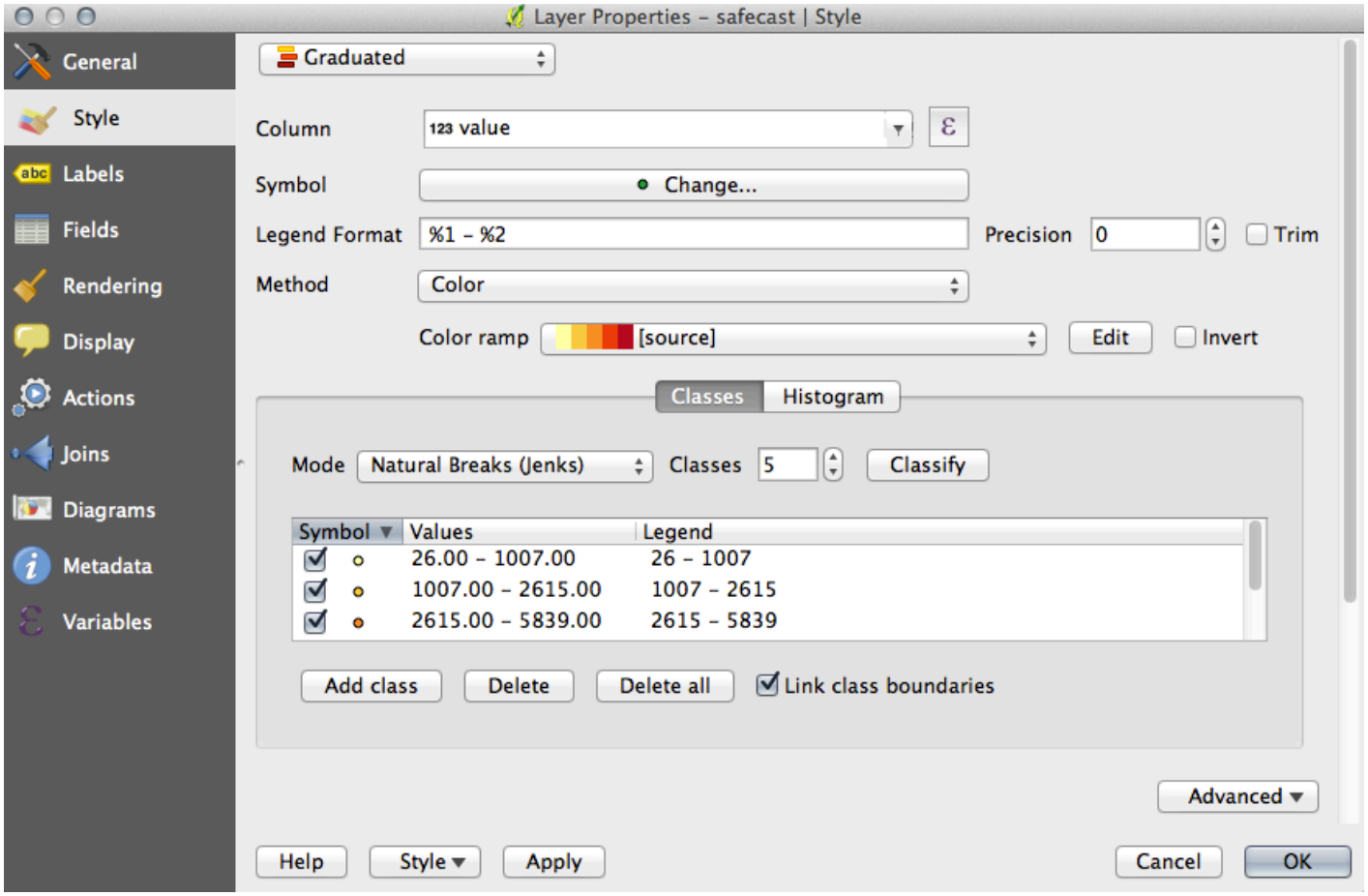
To open the dialog including thematic mapping settings:

```
[In QGIS top menu]
Layer  Properties ...
or
simply click right on 'safecast' layer and choose 'properties' item
or
even simpler by double clicking on 'safecast' layer
```

3. Define thematic mapping settings

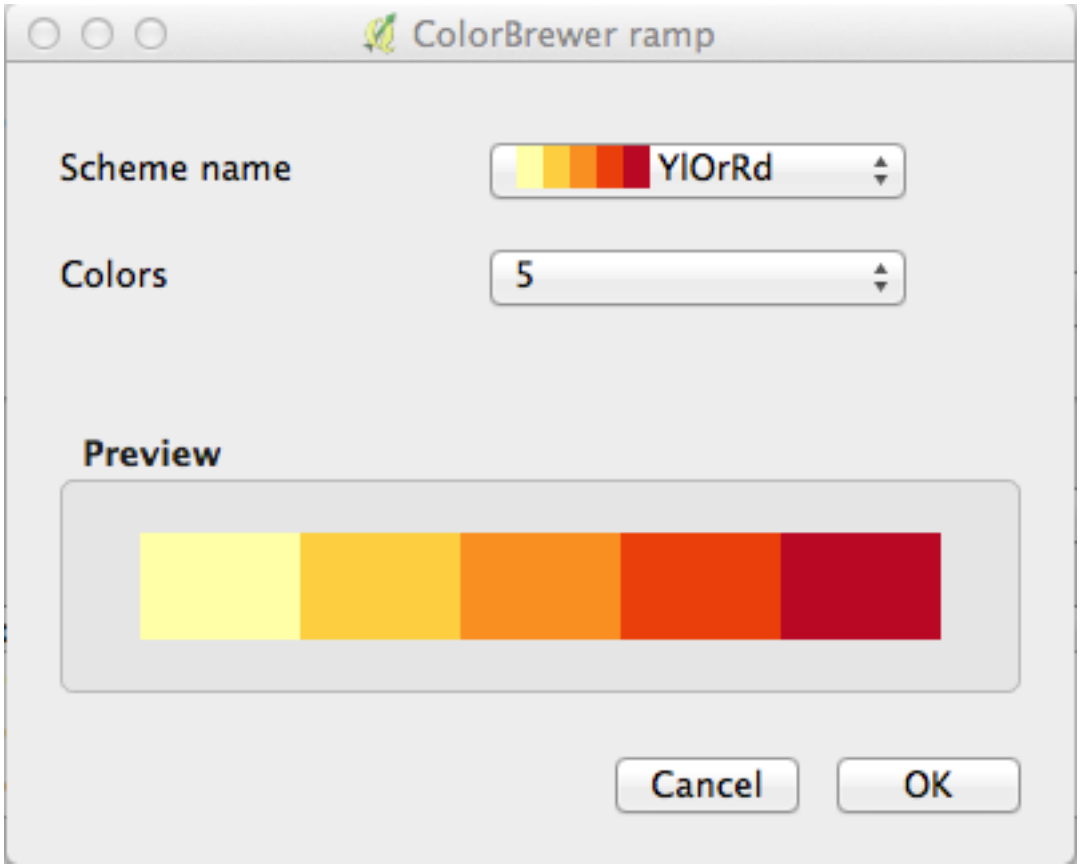
To associate values measurements (in our case ionizing radion in counts per minute) with a colours you need to make the following choices:

1. association rule: 'Graduated'
2. column of the attribute table to be looked up: 'value'
3. method to be used: 'Color'
4. color ramp
5. classification method and number of classes



To choose the colour ramp:

1. Click 'Color ramp' selector 'New color ramp'
2. Choose 'ColorBrewer'
3. scheme name 'YlOrRd'
4. number of colors: 5



5. Fine-tuning

At this stage all ingredients are in place but polishing is still required:

1. tweak symbol size: for instance 1.5
2. make symbol outline (contour) transparent
3. add transparency to the marker fill as well 40-50%

These last steps are justified in order to prevent or at least minimize the issue of overplotting.